



Example – linear molecule

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m_1 \dot{x}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 \dot{x}_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_3 \dot{x}_3^2 - \frac{1}{2} k (x_2 - x_1 - \ell_{12})^2 - \frac{1}{2} k (x_3 - x_2 - \ell_{23})^2$$

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Let:  $x_1 \rightarrow x_1 - x_1^0$   $x_2 \rightarrow x_2 - x_1^0 - \ell_{12}$   $x_3 \rightarrow x_3 - x_1^0 - \ell_{12} - \ell_{23}$

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m_1 \dot{x}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 \dot{x}_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_3 \dot{x}_3^2 - \frac{1}{2} k (x_2 - x_1)^2 - \frac{1}{2} k (x_3 - x_2)^2$$

Coupled equations of motion :

$$m_1 \ddot{x}_1 = k(x_2 - x_1)$$

$$m_2 \ddot{x}_2 = -k(x_2 - x_1) + k(x_3 - x_2) = k(x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3)$$

$$m_3 \ddot{x}_3 = -k(x_3 - x_2)$$

Let  $x_i(t) = X_i^\alpha e^{i\omega_\alpha t}$

$$-\omega_\alpha^2 m_1 X_1^\alpha = k(X_2^\alpha - X_1^\alpha)$$

$$-\omega_\alpha^2 m_2 X_2^\alpha = k(X_1^\alpha - 2X_2^\alpha + X_3^\alpha)$$

$$-\omega_\alpha^2 m_3 X_3^\alpha = -k(X_3^\alpha - X_2^\alpha)$$

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For  $m_1 = m_3 \equiv m_o$   
and  $m_2 \equiv m_c$

$$\omega_1 = 0$$

$$\omega_2 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m_o}}$$

$$\omega_3 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m_o} + \frac{2k}{m_c}}$$

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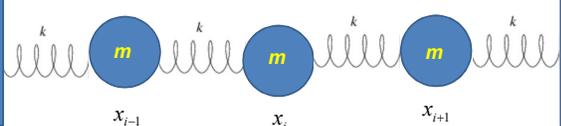
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Consider an extended system of masses and springs:



Note: each mass coordinate is measured relative to its equilibrium position  $x_i^0$

$$L = T - V = \frac{1}{2} m \sum_{i=1}^N \dot{x}_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} k \sum_{i=0}^N (x_{i+1} - x_i)^2$$

Note: In fact, we have  $N$  masses;  $x_0$  and  $x_{N+1}$  will be treated using boundary conditions.

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$$L = T - V = \frac{1}{2} m \sum_{i=1}^N \dot{x}_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} k \sum_{i=0}^N (x_{i+1} - x_i)^2$$

$x_0 \equiv 0$  and  $x_{N+1} \equiv 0$

From Euler - Lagrange equations :

$$m\ddot{x}_1 = k(x_2 - 2x_1)$$

$$m\ddot{x}_2 = k(x_3 - 2x_2 + x_1)$$

.....

$$m\ddot{x}_i = k(x_{i+1} - 2x_i + x_{i-1})$$

.....

$$m\ddot{x}_N = k(x_{N-1} - 2x_N)$$

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From Euler - Lagrange equations :

$$m\ddot{x}_j = k(x_{j+1} - 2x_j + x_{j-1}) \quad \text{with } x_0 = 0 = x_{N+1}$$

Try:  $x_j(t) = A e^{-i\omega t + i q a j}$

$$-\omega^2 A e^{-i\omega t + i q a j} = \frac{k}{m} (e^{i q a} - 2 + e^{-i q a}) A e^{-i\omega t + i q a j}$$

$$-\omega^2 = \frac{k}{m} (2 \cos(qa) - 2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega^2 = \frac{4k}{m} \sin^2\left(\frac{qa}{2}\right)$$

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From Euler - Lagrange equations -- continued :

$$m\ddot{x}_j = k(x_{j+1} - 2x_j + x_{j-1}) \quad \text{with } x_0 = 0 = x_{N+1}$$

$$\text{Try: } x_j(t) = Ae^{-i\omega t + iqa_j} \quad \Rightarrow \omega^2 = \frac{4k}{m} \sin^2\left(\frac{qa}{2}\right)$$

$$\text{Note that: } x_j(t) = Be^{-i\omega t - iqa_j} \quad \Rightarrow \omega^2 = \frac{4k}{m} \sin^2\left(\frac{qa}{2}\right)$$

General solution :

$$x_j(t) = \Re\left(Ae^{-i\omega t + iqa_j} + Be^{-i\omega t - iqa_j}\right)$$

Impose boundary conditions :

$$x_0(t) = \Re\left(Ae^{-i\omega t} + Be^{-i\omega t}\right) = 0$$

$$x_{N+1}(t) = \Re\left(Ae^{-i\omega t + iqa(N+1)} + Be^{-i\omega t - iqa(N+1)}\right) = 0$$

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Impose boundary conditions -- continued :

$$x_0(t) = \Re\left(Ae^{-i\omega t} + Be^{-i\omega t}\right) = 0$$

$$x_{N+1}(t) = \Re\left(Ae^{-i\omega t + iqa(N+1)} + Be^{-i\omega t - iqa(N+1)}\right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow B = -A$$

$$x_{N+1}(t) = \Re\left(Ae^{-i\omega t} \left(e^{iqa(N+1)} - e^{-iqa(N+1)}\right)\right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin(qa(N+1)) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow qa(N+1) = \nu\pi \quad \text{where } \nu = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$qa = \frac{\nu\pi}{N+1}$$

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Recap -- solution for integer parameter  $\nu$

$$x_j(t) = \Re\left(2iAe^{-i\omega_\nu t} \sin\left(\frac{\nu\pi j}{N+1}\right)\right)$$

$$\omega_\nu^2 = \frac{4k}{m} \sin^2\left(\frac{\nu\pi}{2(N+1)}\right)$$

Note that non - trivial, unique values are

$$\nu = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

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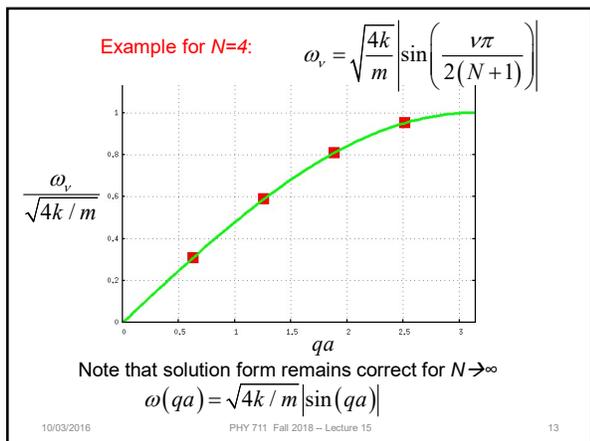
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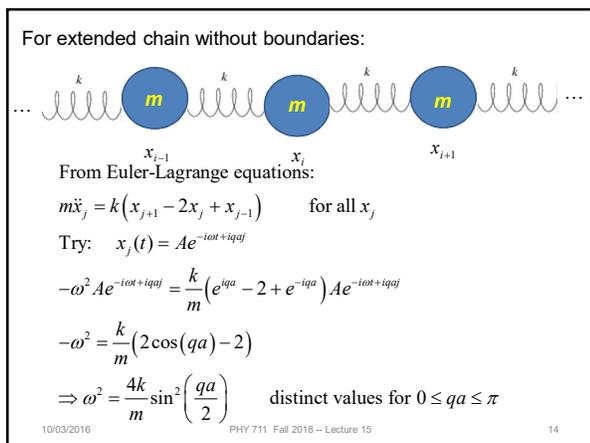
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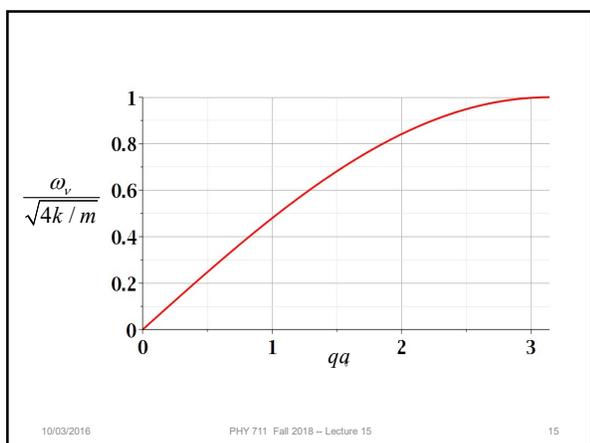
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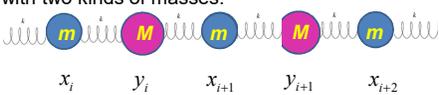
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Consider an infinite system of masses and springs now with two kinds of masses:



$x_i \quad y_i \quad x_{i+1} \quad y_{i+1} \quad x_{i+2}$

Note : each mass coordinate is measured relative to its equilibrium position  $x_i^0, y_i^0, \dots$

$L = T - V$

$$= \frac{1}{2} m \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \dot{x}_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} M \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \dot{y}_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} k \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (x_{i+1} - y_i)^2 - \frac{1}{2} k \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (y_i - x_i)^2$$

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$L = T - V$

$$= \frac{1}{2} m \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \dot{x}_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} M \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \dot{y}_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} k \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (x_{i+1} - y_i)^2 - \frac{1}{2} k \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (y_i - x_i)^2$$

Euler - Lagrange equations :

$$m\ddot{x}_j = k(y_{j-1} - 2x_j + y_j)$$

$$M\ddot{y}_j = k(x_j - 2y_j + x_{j+1})$$

Trial solution :

$$x_j(t) = A e^{-i\omega t + i2qa_j}$$

$$y_j(t) = B e^{-i\omega t + i2qa_j}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} m\omega^2 - 2k & k(e^{-i2qa} + 1) \\ k(e^{i2qa} + 1) & M\omega^2 - 2k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

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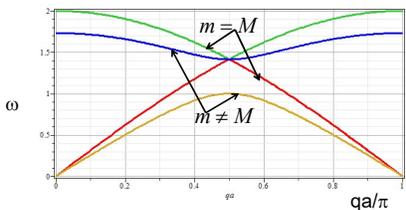
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$$\begin{pmatrix} m\omega^2 - 2k & k(e^{-i2qa} + 1) \\ k(e^{i2qa} + 1) & M\omega^2 - 2k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Solutions :

$$\omega_{\pm}^2 = \frac{k}{m} + \frac{k}{M} \pm k \sqrt{\frac{1}{m^2} + \frac{1}{M^2} + \frac{2\cos(2qa)}{mM}}$$


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Eigenvectors:

For  $qa = 0$ :

$$\omega_- = 0 \quad \omega_+ = \sqrt{\frac{2k}{m} + \frac{2k}{M}}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix}_- = N \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix}_+ = N \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

For  $qa = \frac{\pi}{2}$ :

$$\omega_- = \sqrt{\frac{2k}{M}} \quad \omega_+ = \sqrt{\frac{2k}{m}}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix}_- = N \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix}_+ = N \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Potential in 2 and more dimensions

$$V(x, y) \approx V(x_{eq}, y_{eq}) + \frac{1}{2}(x - x_{eq})^2 \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x_{eq}, y_{eq}} + \frac{1}{2}(y - y_{eq})^2 \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} \right|_{x_{eq}, y_{eq}} + (x - x_{eq})(y - y_{eq}) \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x \partial y} \right|_{x_{eq}, y_{eq}}$$

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Example – normal modes of a system with the symmetry of an equilateral triangle

Degrees of freedom for 2-dimensional motion:

$$2N = 6$$

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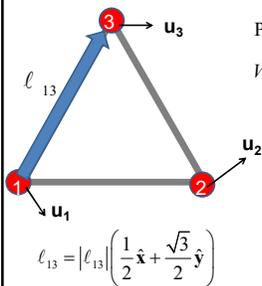
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Example – normal modes of a system with the symmetry of an equilateral triangle -- continued



Potential contribution for spring 13:

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{13} &= \frac{1}{2}k(|\ell_{13} + \mathbf{u}_3 - \mathbf{u}_1| - |\ell_{13}|)^2 \\
 &\approx \frac{1}{2}k\left(\frac{\ell_{13} \cdot (\mathbf{u}_3 - \mathbf{u}_1)}{|\ell_{13}|}\right)^2 \\
 &\approx \frac{1}{2}k\left(\frac{1}{2}(u_{x3} - u_{x1}) + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}(u_{y3} - u_{y1})\right)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

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Example – normal modes of a system with the symmetry of an equilateral triangle -- continued

Potential contributions:  $V = V_{12} + V_{13} + V_{23}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\approx \frac{1}{2}k\left(\frac{\ell_{12} \cdot (\mathbf{u}_2 - \mathbf{u}_1)}{|\ell_{12}|}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}k\left(\frac{\ell_{13} \cdot (\mathbf{u}_3 - \mathbf{u}_1)}{|\ell_{13}|}\right)^2 \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}k\left(\frac{\ell_{23} \cdot (\mathbf{u}_3 - \mathbf{u}_2)}{|\ell_{23}|}\right)^2 \\
 &\approx \frac{1}{2}k(u_{x2} - u_{x1})^2 \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}k\left(\frac{1}{2}(u_{x3} - u_{x1}) + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}(u_{y3} - u_{y1})\right)^2 \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}k\left(\frac{1}{2}(u_{x2} - u_{x3}) - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}(u_{y2} - u_{y3})\right)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

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Example – normal modes of a system with the symmetry of an equilateral triangle -- continued

$$\frac{k}{m} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{4} & -1 & -\frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & 0 & -\frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} \\ -1 & \frac{5}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} & 0 & -\frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & 0 & -\frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & \frac{3}{4} & 0 & -\frac{3}{4} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & -\frac{3}{4} \\ -\frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{3} & 0 & -\frac{3}{4} & -\frac{3}{4} & \frac{3}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{x1} \\ u_{x2} \\ u_{x3} \\ u_{y1} \\ u_{y2} \\ u_{y3} \end{bmatrix} = \omega^2 \begin{bmatrix} u_{x1} \\ u_{x2} \\ u_{x3} \\ u_{y1} \\ u_{y2} \\ u_{y3} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Example – normal modes of a system with the symmetry of an equilateral triangle -- continued

$$\omega^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ \frac{3}{2} \\ \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \frac{k}{m}$$

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3-dimensional periodic lattices  
Example – face-centered-cubic unit cell (Al or Ni)

Diagram of atom positions

Diagram of q-space  $\nu(q)$

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From: PRB 59 3395 (1999); Mishin et. al.  $\nu(q)$

FIG. 2. Comparison of phonon-dispersion curves for Al (a) and Ni (b) predicted by the present EAM potentials, with the experimental values measured by neutron diffraction at 80 K (Al) and 298 K (Ni) (Ref. 33 for Al and Ref. 34 for Ni). The phonon frequencies at point X were included in the fitting database with low weight.

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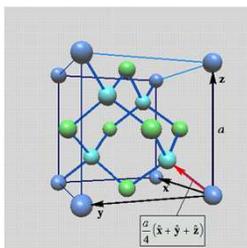
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Lattice vibrations for 3-dimensional lattice

Example: diamond lattice



Ref: [http://phycomp.technion.ac.il/~nika/diamond\\_structure.html](http://phycomp.technion.ac.il/~nika/diamond_structure.html)

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Atoms located at the positions :

$$\mathbf{R}^a = \mathbf{R}_0^a + \mathbf{u}^a$$

Potential energy function near equilibrium :

$$U(\{\mathbf{R}^a\}) \approx U(\{\mathbf{R}_0^a\}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,b} (\mathbf{R}^a - \mathbf{R}_0^a) \cdot \left. \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \mathbf{R}^a \partial \mathbf{R}^b} \right|_{\{\mathbf{R}_0^a\}} (\mathbf{R}^b - \mathbf{R}_0^b)$$

Define :

$$D_{jk}^{ab} \equiv \left. \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \mathbf{R}_j^a \partial \mathbf{R}_k^b} \right|_{\{\mathbf{R}_0^a\}}$$

so that

$$U(\{\mathbf{R}^a\}) \approx U_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,b,j,k} u_j^a D_{jk}^{ab} u_k^b$$

$$L(\{u_j^a, \dot{u}_j^a\}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,j} m_a (\dot{u}_j^a)^2 - U_0 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,b,j,k} u_j^a D_{jk}^{ab} u_k^b$$

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$$L(\{u_j^a, \dot{u}_j^a\}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,j} m_a (\dot{u}_j^a)^2 - U_0 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,b,j,k} u_j^a D_{jk}^{ab} u_k^b$$

Equations of motion :

$$m_a \ddot{u}_j^a = - \sum_{b,k} D_{jk}^{ab} u_k^b$$

Solution form :

$$u_j^a(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m_a}} A_j^a e^{-i\omega t + i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_0^a}$$

Details:  $\mathbf{R}_0^a = \boldsymbol{\tau}^a + \mathbf{T}$  where  $\boldsymbol{\tau}^a$  denotes unique sites and  $\mathbf{T}$  denotes replicas

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Define:

$$W_{jk}^{ab}(\mathbf{q}) = \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \frac{D_{jk}^{ab} e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')} }{\sqrt{m_a m_b}} e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}}$$

Eigenvalue equations:

$$\omega^2 A_j^a = \sum_{b,k} W(\mathbf{q})_{jk}^{ab} A_k^b$$

In this equation the summation is only over unique atomic sites.

⇒ Find "dispersion curves"  $\omega(\mathbf{q})$

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B. P. Pandy and B. Dayal, J. Phys. C. Solid State Phys. 6 2943 (1973)

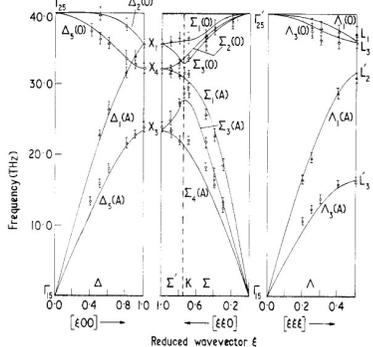


Figure 2. Phonon dispersion curves of diamond. Experimental points *et al* (1965, 1967).  $\Delta$  and  $\circ$  represent the longitudinal and transverse m...

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